



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 649

January Session, 2015

House Bill No. 6490

House of Representatives, April 15, 2015

The Committee on Public Health reported through REP. RITTER of the 1st Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PILOT PROGRAM FOR PERSONS DIAGNOSED WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than July 1, 2015, the
2 Commissioner of Developmental Services, in consultation with the
3 Commissioner of Children and Families, shall establish a pilot
4 program for persons with developmental disability and persons who
5 have been diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder who (1) require a
6 high level of clinical services, (2) have been difficult for the
7 Department of Developmental Services to place due to such persons'
8 behavioral needs, and (3) are on said department's emergency list or
9 have been served primarily in a hospital setting or out-of-state facility.
10 The pilot program shall provide a coordinated system of
11 individualized services for such persons that includes integration into
12 the community in a group setting.
- 13 (b) The pilot program shall provide participating persons with (1)
14 behavior management services through the use of behavior analysis,

15 (2) training in development of coping skills, (3) on-site clinical
16 oversight, including the availability of direct care personnel to address
17 behavioral needs on a twenty-four-hour basis, and (4) other
18 individualized services.

19 (c) Service providers who participate in the pilot program shall have
20 demonstrated experience serving persons with the behavior
21 characteristics of those participating in the pilot program and
22 managing challenging behaviors including aggression, self-injury and
23 property destruction using methods of applied behavior analysis. All
24 staff who provide direct care to persons participating in the pilot
25 program shall receive training in applied behavior analysis,
26 medication administration and crisis intervention. Service providers
27 shall collaborate with school personnel and day program service
28 providers to achieve consistency in behavior expectations for
29 participants in the pilot program.

30 (d) The pilot program shall serve not more than twenty-four
31 persons. The Commissioner of Developmental Services shall identify
32 service providers meeting the requirements of subsection (c) of this
33 section to provide direct care services for participants and identify
34 appropriate placements for such participants. The commissioner may
35 contract with any such service provider to provide such services for
36 participants. The commissioner may place not more than six persons in
37 any one group home. The commissioner shall establish a per diem fee
38 for the services provided under the pilot program.

39 (e) On or before January 1, 2017, the Commissioner of
40 Developmental Services shall report, in accordance with the provisions
41 of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees
42 of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
43 public health, human services and children concerning the results of
44 the pilot program established in accordance with this section.

<p>This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:</p>
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Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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PH***Joint Favorable***

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 16 \$	FY 17 \$
Department of Developmental Services	GF - Cost	3,672,000	3,672,000
Social Services, Dept.	GF - Cost	177,984	177,984
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Revenue Gain	1,836,000	1,836,000
Net State Impact	GF - Cost	2,013,984	2,013,984

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill results in a net state cost of \$2,013,984 after anticipated federal Medicaid waiver revenue in both FY 16 and FY 17 by requiring the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), in consultation with the Department of Children and Families, to establish a pilot program for up to 24 persons with developmental disabilities and autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

While a specific DDS plan to accomplish these requirements is not available at this time, the following cost estimate is based upon providing the services required under the bill to persons who have intellectual disabilities and ASD and are on the department's emergency list. The details of the costs and revenue are provided below.

Department of Developmental Services (DDS)

The anticipated DDS cost to fund the pilot program for up to 25 persons as required by the bill is \$3.7 million in FY 16 and FY 17.

Residential Service Category	# Consumers	FY 16 Cost \$	FY 17 Cost \$
Group Home ¹	24	3,672,000	3,672,000

Department of Social Services (DSS)

DSS funds the room and board costs for DDS consumers in group homes through the Aid to the Disabled account. Assuming that the new placements are in group homes the following costs result for DSS' Aid to the Disabled account.

DSS - Account	# Consumers	Average Cost \$	FY 16 Cost \$	FY 17 Cost \$
Aid to the Disabled	24	7,416	177,984	177,984

Federal Revenue

Under the Medicaid home and community-based waiver program the state receives 50% reimbursement for all DDS consumers receiving services under the waiver. Based on the estimated costs of residential services under the bill, the anticipated Medicaid revenue to the General Fund is shown below.

	FY 16 \$	FY 17 \$
DDS Pilot Program Cost	3,672,000	3,672,000
Anticipated Medicaid Waiver - Revenue (50%)	1,836,000	1,836,000

To the extent that an individual in the Pilot Program was formerly in an out of state placement funded by DDS, the cost of the Pilot Program would be reduced. Additionally, since out of state placements do not qualify under the waiver, a Pilot Program placement would

¹ Estimate based on the FY 15 average annual cost of \$153,000 for children and young adults in group homes under the Voluntary Services Program.

result in 50% reimbursement to the General Fund.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

*Sources: DDS Management Information Report
DDS testimony to Appropriations Health Subcommittee*



OLR Bill Analysis

HB 6490

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DIAGNOSED WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER.***

SUMMARY:

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 25 Nay 0 (03/30/2015)